

- 2 -

37505.0391

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A capacitor-reform method comprising:
  - a) charging at least one wet-tantalum capacitor in an implantable medical device;
  - b) allowing the one wet-tantalum capacitors to discharge through system leakage after charging the one wet-tantalum capacitor in the implantable medical device; and
  - c) discharging the one or more of the wet-tantalum capacitors through a non-therapeutic load, after allowing the one or more wet-tantalum capacitors to discharge through system leakage.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the implantable medical device has a housing and the non-therapeutic load is a resistor within the housing.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the one wet-tantalum capacitor comprises a tantalum anode and a non-tantalum cathode.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the implantable device includes means for defibrillation, means for cardioversion, or means for pacemaking.
5. (Currently Amended) A capacitor-reform method comprising:
  - a) charging at least one wet-tantalum capacitor to a high voltage relative its rated voltage or maximum-energy voltage;

- 3 -

37505.0391

- b) partially discharging the one the wet-tantalum capacitors through system leakage after charging the one wet-tantalum capacitor to the high voltage; and
  - c) discharging the one or more of the wet-tantalum capacitors through a non-therapeutic load, after partially discharging the one or more wet-tantalum capacitors through system leakage.
- 6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the high voltage is about 90 percent of the rated voltage or a maximum-energy voltage for the capacitor.
- 7. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the implantable medical device has a housing and the non-therapeutic load is a resistor within the housing.
- 8. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the one wet-tantalum capacitor comprises a tantalum anode and a non-tantalum cathode.
- 9. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the partial discharging is initiated after a time period of at least 60 seconds.
- 10. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the implantable device includes means for defibrillation, means for cardioversion, or means for pacemaking.

- 4 -

37505.0391

11. (Currently Amended) A capacitor-reform method comprising:
- a) charging at least one wet-tantalum capacitor in an implantable medical device, in response to a reform signal from a processor in the medical device;
  - b) allowing the one wet-tantalum capacitors to discharge through system leakage after charging the one wet-tantalum capacitor in the implantable medical device; and
  - c) discharging the one or more of the wet-tantalum capacitors through a non-therapeutic load, after allowing the one or more wet-tantalum capacitors to discharge through system leakage.
12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the implantable medical device has a housing and the non-therapeutic load is a resistor within the housing.
13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the one wet-tantalum capacitor comprises a tantalum anode and a non-tantalum cathode.
14. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the implantable device includes means for defibrillation, means for cardioversion, or means for pacemaking.

- 5 -

37505.0391

15. (Currently Amended) A capacitor-reform method comprising:
- a) charging at least one wet-tantalum capacitor in a device to a voltage;
  - b) allowing the one wet-tantalum capacitors to discharge through system leakage after charging the one wet-tantalum capacitor in the device; and
  - c) discharging the one or more of the wet-tantalum capacitors through a load, after allowing the one or more wet-tantalum capacitors to discharge through system leakage.
16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the device has a housing and the load is a resistor within the housing.
17. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the one wet-tantalum capacitor comprises a tantalum anode and a non-tantalum cathode.
18. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the device is implantable and includes a housing and at least one of means for defibrillation, means for cardioversion, and means for pacemaking; and wherein the load includes a resistor within the housing